

ABSTRACT

The invention is a novel automated apparatus for optically inspecting both sides of manufactured components for manufacturing defects. The invention can be used to inspect either ferrous or non-ferrous components. The apparatus comprises a first and a second rotatable disc and either a first and a second nonrotatable magnet or a first and second nonrotatable vacuum plenum. The first rotatable disc rotates in a first direction and the second rotatable disc rotates in a second direction. Components are either magnetically held to each disc or held by vacuum. At a transfer station, a bottom surface of the second rotatable disc partially overlaps a top surface of the first rotatable disc, and components are transferred from the first rotatable disc to the second rotatable disc.